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Bowling Green State University

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Wednesday

July 11, 2007
Volume 101, Issue 157
WWW.BGNEWS.COM

The gold standard goes digital

Virtual items on online video games are selling for real money in the world market | **Page 7**

Saying goodbye to all of your ex's stuff

The end of every relationship seems to end in a material conundrum | **Page 7**

Transformers: commercial in disguise

Bad dialogue, plot holes and product placement disappoint many viewers | **Page 7**

To water or not to water, that is the question

Our columnist explores the necessity of keeping the University's lawns green | **Page 4**

America's top 10 virtues

Family Guy, live music, fireworks and Chipotle are among America's accolades | **Page 4**

Women golfers receive honors for GPA

Two BGSU golfers named to the NGCA All-American Scholar Team | **Page 9**

Carter Park keeps summer sports alive

The park has been hosting youth and adult baseball and softball competitions for years | **Page 9**



Do you think the University should water the grass during the summer?



DEREK MAXEY,
Freshman
Physics

"I guess to keep it alive as long as it's not raining." | **Page 4**



TODAY
AM T-Showers
High: 79, Low: 55



TOMORROW
Few Showers
High: 81, Low: 59

Demolition plans move forward

By Amanda Hoover
Managing Editor

In case it wasn't obvious already, the newly erected fence around Saddlemere Student Services building should make it clear to all that the building is coming down.

Recently, the University accepted bids from three contractors to carry out the demolition of the building.

The general demolition will be handled by Baumann Enterprises.

According to Keith Feuerstein, Baumann's project manager, they will be coming in with large track excavators to pull down the building. The machines have grapple attachments that look like a hand, which makes it easier to grab onto parts of Saddlemere.

After the initial demolition, all non-recyclable materials, such as

drywall and wood, will be taken to the landfill, while all metals and recyclable materials will be taken to a recycling center.

"Once it's down on the ground, we're going to crush it with our large crushing machine," Feuerstein said. The crushing machine will turn everything that is left on the site into little pebbles.

The two other contractors are Romanoff Electric and Helm

and Associates.

Romanoff will be in charge of all electrical aspects, which, according to the Romanoff Project Manager, Kevin Mekis, will include doing some work to ensure the lights of the parking lot adjacent to Saddlemere are rewired so they continue working after the building comes down.

"We'll try to recover any hazardous materials, [prep] so it's safe to tear down, elec-

trically," Mekis said.

The third contractor, Helm and Associates, was hired to take care of the mechanical aspects of the project.

"We're moving a chiller [the University wants] to save and just capping off some piping that goes into the building," explained Helm Project Manager Guss Campagna.

See **PLANS** | Page 2

Celebrating 35 years of success



JORDAN FLOWER | THE BG NEWS

CONNOISSEUR: Bill Bartlett, the new executive chef at SamB's Restaurant on Main Street, takes a break from his busy day. He joins as SamB's heads into its 35th year of business.

A new chef is added to the staff to bring different flavor to SamB's

By Scott Recker
Reporter

SamB's Restaurant is celebrating 35 years of unusual and rich history and is looking to further its success with the recent addition of Executive Chef Bill Bartlett.

SamB's, named after French absurdist writer Samuel Beckett, was opened in 1972 by three University students who felt that Northwest Ohio needed a new taste.

Allen Powell, David Kresak and Jim Ferrell became the first to serve submarine sandwiches in Bowling Green.

"We felt there was a need for a sandwich shop in Bowling Green," Ferrell, who is still the current owner, said. "This predates Subway and there were no businesses selling subs in 1972."

SamB's was originally located at 107 State St., which is now where

Campus Quarters sits.

At the end of 1972, Powell and Kresak decided to leave the business but Ferrell wanted to pursue his interest in the restaurant business.

"I was already invested in it and it had caught my interest," Ferrell said. "I am one by nature that doesn't give up on things. It became part of me."

The evolution of SamB's began in 1974 when Ferrell acquired a license that allowed him to add a small carry-out to his business.

In 1975, Ferrell obtained a liquor license and major renovations took place with the addition of a better dining room, a bar and a patio.

After 13 years in Bowling Green SamB's closed in 1985, due to an "excellent offer by Aspen Partnership," according to a 1988 BG News article.

Ferrell moved back to his home

state of New Jersey until 1988, when he reopened SamB's in the spring at 146 N. Main St. which is the current location of Beckett's.

In 1997 he bought Kaufman's restaurant which is where SamB's is currently located.

In 2002 he closed Kaufman's and moved SamB's into the building to allow the restaurant to grow and he turned the old location into Beckett's Pub.

In January of this year Ferrell realized that he needed someone in the kitchen with knowledge and experience, and in spring he brought in Executive Chef Bill Bartlett to fill those gaps.

"When Bill started to work here I found it to be a great relief to me because of his leadership and knowledge," Ferrell said.

Manager Sandy Daum believes

See **SAMB'S** | Page 2

New plans for city parks offered

By Kristen Schweitzer
Reporter

On Monday night the Wood County Park District held a meeting in the Bowling Green library to determine what citizens of Bowling Green would like to see done with county parks over the next decade.

The meeting was one of five scheduled for the Wood County area in order to determine the future of the parks, according to Deb Nofsinger, the program coordinator for the Naturalist Program Department.

The WCPD had recently reached the end of its previous 10-year development plan.

At the meeting, Wood County Park Director Neil Munger reviewed successes from the plan.

"Continued planning for facilities that encourage high quality and low maintenance is something that we get each and every time we develop the new facilities of the park district. We know that being a small park district wanting to provide as much as we can, we have to be very careful with the maintenance," Munger said.

Some of the other success includes continuing of staff training, developing and maintaining a prioritized list of equipment, increasing the number of staff members and building a nature center near Perrysburg.

Monday's meeting will help decide which achievements will be on the future agenda of the Wood County Park District for the next 10 years.

Bryan Cavins, the assistant director of outdoor programs and recreational sports at the University helped Munger facilitate the meeting.

"I love the outside. I love to see Wood County Parks flourish ... and expand," Cavins said in his introduction.

Cavins allowed those in attendance to come up with their own ideas for the 2007 strategic plan, ideas that would

See **PARKS** | Page 5

Smashing cars! Scary monsters! Fremont's Haunted Hydro offers screams for customers

By Jillian Roach
Reporter

July isn't just a time for the red, white and blue, but also a time of screams, screeches and boos, thanks in part to The Haunted Hydro, a haunted house in Fremont, Ohio.

The Hydro has spooked visitors for close to two decades and will kick off another season of frights this Thursday.

From 7:30 to 11:30 p.m., the Hydro is asking anyone with a Military ID to come and experience its scares. People who bring a military ID will receive free admission for themselves and a guest.

Along with the haunted house, the Hydro is also offer-

ing additional entertainment throughout the evening and the scaring season.

Bob Turner, owner of the Haunted Hydro, is especially adamant about one event, "Hit the Haunted Hooptie."

"Hit the Hooptie is an event we've offered through the years where people pay to take their aggressions out on an old vehicle," Turner said.

"The Hydro really pushes this activity because all of the pro-

ceeds go to the charity of choice for that year," he said.

Throughout its 18 years of service, the Hydro has generated over \$240,000 for charities in the area.

This year's charity of choice is the Wood County Humane Society. The Humane Society will have a booth set up with information about the facility and photos of adoptable pets.

See **HYDRO** | Page 2

Keeping Bowling 'green'

By Christy Johnson
Campus News Editor

In a society obsessed with physical appearance, it's no wonder that green grass free of weeds is commonplace in American society.

Places like northwest Ohio enjoy naturally occurring grass, but droughts and weeds mixed into the equation can turn grass brown, not uniform and not as aesthetically pleasing.

This has led to many people using sprinkler systems to water their lawns, and herbicides to get rid of weeds in the grass.

Gary Silverman, director of environmental health for BGSU, said that watering lawns to make them green is only for aesthetic purposes, being that brown grass is not dead grass.

"Aesthetics are important, especially with grass in common places where people want to sit or throw the Frisbee," Silverman said.

And water usage is not a huge problem in northwest Ohio because of the abundance of water we have around us, including our high groundwater table.

But that does not mean watering the grass does not use up other natural resources, like energy that is used to purify the water at water treatment plants.

The water running through the estimated 24 irrigation systems at the University is all city water, except for irrigation systems at the Field House and the band fields, which are run from sulfur wells.

See **YARD CARE** | Page 5

BLOTTER FRIDAY

7:45 A.M.

Unknown subject(s) broke in through the garage service door of a construction site on St. George Circle and took several power tools and accessories.

SATURDAY

12:07 A.M.

Armanda M. Reyes, 20, of Lindsey, Ohio, was arrested for lending her ID to her 17-year-old sister so that she could enter Uptown.

1:08 A.M.

Anna C. Phillips, 21, of Bowling Green, was arrested for selling alcohol to Mark Ryan Miller, 20, of Bowling Green, at a bar on North Main Street. Miller had an "x" marked on his hand indicating he was underage.

4:58 A.M.

Police respond to a 911 call from the girlfriend of Jeremy Meyer, 23, of Bowling Green. The girlfriend reported Meyer was jumping on the hood of her car as she tried to drive away. Officers could not locate the girlfriend, but did find Meyers at the corner of Wooster Street and College Drive. His hand was scraped from falling off the hood but Meyer stated that the fight was only verbal.

6:12 A.M.

Erin R. Ruffing, 21, of Bowling Green, reported that unknown subject(s) threw a brick threw the rear window of her mother's vehicle. Damage is valued at \$500.

9:34 A.M.

Anna E. Dzuravcin reported that sometime between 2:30 and 6:00 a.m. someone threw a rock through the windshield of her car. Damage is valued at \$500.

SUNDAY

2:29 A.M.

Corey J. Thurman, 21, of Grand Rapids, Ohio, and Brandon T. Johnson, 21, and Michael R. Oatley, 27, both of Bowling Green, were all arrested for fighting on the 100 block of North Main Street.

3:52 P.M.

A pharmacist on North Main Street reported that a subject came into the pharmacy with two prescriptions made out to "Katie Mahaffey." When the pharmacist indicated he needed to contact the doctor who issued them, the subject left with the prescriptions.

5:18 P.M.

Jane J. Vazquez, 44, of Bowling Green called to report that her husband, Jorge M. Vazquez, 42, threw a chair at her. The call was abruptly disconnected. Police went to the house where Jorge denied throwing the chair, but his wife said he did. Jorge left to spend the night at a friend's house.

8:36 P.M.

Joan E. Blackman-Lowrie, 54, of Bowling Green, states she was having a water balloon fight with neighbors at her apartment complex on Napoleon Road when another resident, whom she knows only as "Danny," got mad, poured his beer on her, slammed her up against the wall and grabbed her crotch.

Riding a bike or driving a car, the same laws apply

By Megan Armentrout
Reporter

An old party tradition is to place your car keys in the hands of a friend to prevent drunk driving. Placing the handle bars of a bicycle in the hands of a friend is not as common, but the law means you might want to consider it.

Ohio law says it is illegal to be in control of a vehicle when you are under the influence of alcohol. Cyclists are expected to follow the same rules automobiles do while in operation.

The definition of a vehicle includes various forms of transportation like bicycles, tractors, riding lawnmowers and golf carts.

This type of law could be seen as an inconvenience to college students who are looking for a safer way to get home after a night on the town.

Greg Henny, senior, was pulled over on his bike one night when he was coming home from the bars.

Henny was swerving back and forth on Manville Road and there was a cop on the side of the street who saw him biking.

Henny said the officer was very nice to him and explained he pulled him over because of his reckless control of his bike.

"I explained to the officer I was playing it safe by taking my bike instead of my car when I went out," he said. "I was a block away from home and he followed me to make sure I made it home safe and he gave me a verbal warning."

Ohio code 4511.19 states "no person shall operate any vehicle, streetcar, or trackless trolley within this state, if, at the time of the operation, the person is under the influence of

alcohol, a drug of abuse, or a combination of them." Lt. Tony Hetrick, of the Bowling Green Police Department, explained that a bike meets the definition of a vehicle so it would be included in the law.

"Only once in 11 years I have ever personally seen it happen," Hetrick said. "The man was a hazard and he was stopped by a state trooper and arrested."

Many people are unaware the laws you abide by when you are driving a car also apply when you are on a bike. Bowling Green police officers are known to pull over cyclists when they are not obeying the law.

Ryan Carr, senior, bikes on the trails and in town several times a week and was pulled over on the Slippery Elm Trail in Bowling Green.

"After biking for nearly 20 miles I was on the home stretch

when to my surprise I found a state park police officer chasing me in his cruiser," Carr said. "He pulled me over because I had run a few stop signs on the trail, which is out in the country where you can see for miles in both directions."

Carr was given a written warning and told he would be cited the next time it happened.

Jason Grinnell was a graduate student when he was pulled over for biking on a sidewalk in town. He was given a verbal warning from the officer.

Grinnell was aware cyclists are to use the roads and not the sidewalks in Bowling Green, but chose the sidewalk for his own safety.

"I was only on the sidewalks because there is a lack of consideration for bikers from the drivers in Bowling Green," Grinnell said.

SAMB'S

From Page 1

that Bartlett's experience will make SamB's a better restaurant.

"He has so much experience. He has experience in the back of the house and the front of the house," Daum said. "With his experience he can bring fresh ideas."

Bartlett's decision to come to SamB's was influenced by the fact that the restaurant is an independent business.

"SamB's is a little more of a family environment and is less-corporate than what I was involved with," Bartlett said.

Ferrell is proud of the accomplishments and all the years of hard work that has gone into SamB's.

"I take a lot of pride in the evolution of SamB's and the quality that we achieved," Ferrell said.

Democrats propose legislation that would bring home troops

By Anne Gearan
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A senior Democrat said yesterday it was obvious the Iraqi government has made no progress and the only way to propel it was to begin pulling out U.S. troops.

In a countermove, President Bush's national security adviser Stephen Hadley and war adviser Lt. Gen. Douglas Lute arrived on Capitol Hill to consult with members.

Sen. Carl Levin, chairman of the Armed Services Committee, proposed legislation with Sen.

Jack Reed, D-R.I., that would order President Bush to begin pulling out troops in 120 days and end combat by April 30, 2008.

The measure would allow for some troops to remain to conduct counterterrorism, train the Iraqi security forces and protect U.S. infrastructure.

"There is much too little pressure on Iraqi leaders to do what they have to do," Levin, D-Mich., told reporters.

Democrats are reviving their push for troop withdrawals as a progress report on the war finds Baghdad has not met key

targets for security, economic and political reform.

Members said they planned to receive details on the assessment Thursday morning, just as they likely will vote on the Levin proposal.

Rebuffing all such talk, President Bush said he won't succumb to political pressure. During a visit to Parma, Ohio yesterday, he reiterated that troop levels in Iraq "will be decided by our commanders on the ground, not by political figures in Washington, D.C."

"I fully understand that this is a difficult war. It's hard on

the American people but I will once again explain the consequences of failure," he said.

White House spokesman Tony Snow earlier yesterday confirmed that the coming administration report to Congress would say that Iraq has not met all the benchmarks set for it. The nature of that report was revealed earlier to The Associated Press by a senior administration official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

But Snow argued that the assessment is only "a look at the starting line" of the U.S. troop

surge and shouldn't be used by critics to demand withdrawal.

"What Congress will get this week is a snapshot of the beginning of the retooling of the mission in Iraq," he said.

Levin's proposal, offered as an amendment to a \$649 billion defense policy bill, is expected to fail because Republicans say they still oppose setting a timetable on troop withdrawals.

But in a sign that GOP frustration with the war is growing, Sen. Olympia Snowe of Maine said she was consider-

See PROPOSAL | Page 5

PLANS

From Page 1

That piping includes plumbing, heating and air conditioning mechanics which could cause big problems if a pipe were to be missed and broken during construction.

According to BGSU's Project Manager, Marc Brunner, all contractors will be asked to submit records of what materials they salvaged or recycled, so the University can keep a record.

While a timeline for the demolition was unavailable at press time, it may be a while before any of the excavators will be seen on campus.

"We don't have a schedule with the University yet... [we] still have a little bit of asbestos to take out," Feuerstein said.

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RENOVATION: Equipment sits idle yesterday in the construction around the Harshman Quad. The quad is undergoing the same makeover that the Kreischer quad received last year.

HYDRO

From Page 1

They will also be running the "Hit the Hootie" event this week along with the rest of the season.

Margaret Weinberger, Humane Society faculty advisor, couldn't be more excited at the opportunity.

"I'm really glad we have the chance to go and teach people what we're all about and raise money for the organization at the same time," Weinberger said.

Other than the special events, the real attraction, the Hydro itself, isn't all fun and screams. It takes a great deal of work for a season that only lasts 15 weeks.

Jim Bevens, building coordina-

tor, spends countless weeknights perfecting the Hydro's look.

A number of things are made instead of being bought. Bevens, along with numerous other staff members, has made skeletons look real, cages that allow monsters to walk freely, secret doors and compartments for hiding monsters, and even a disemboweler.

A disemboweler is an illusion created when a monster stands over top of "guts," hiding his torso and feet, with a tattered, bloodstained shirt, while the "guts" drip blood. "This gives the illusion that someone has ripped the monster open and left them only with their head," Bevens said.

"It's actually really great that

we can make a number of different things; making the disemboweler, alone, saved us thousands of dollars," he said.

Over the years, the staff has also made countless other props including a giant spider made from a skeleton, a cemetery where its tombstones bore the nicknames of each prominent monster and monsters are encouraged to make their costumes as well.

Each evening the men, and women behind the masks come in an hour or two ahead of time to get ready for the evening. Only, they're not really wearing masks at all.

"It's better to use makeup instead of masks because it allows the monsters to see better,

which ensures safety and keeps the monsters a little bit cooler," Bevens said.

Monsters pick a different themed room each evening and center their makeup and costumes around it. The monsters then spend up to an hour and a half putting on makeup and prosthetic body pieces.

Some costumes are traditional, while others are completely unexpected.

One year, Bevens said, in the laundry-themed room, a monster wore a sweat suit he had sewn socks onto, then laid on the ground, looking like a pile of laundry. When people came by they got a scare as the pile of laundry began to move and moan.

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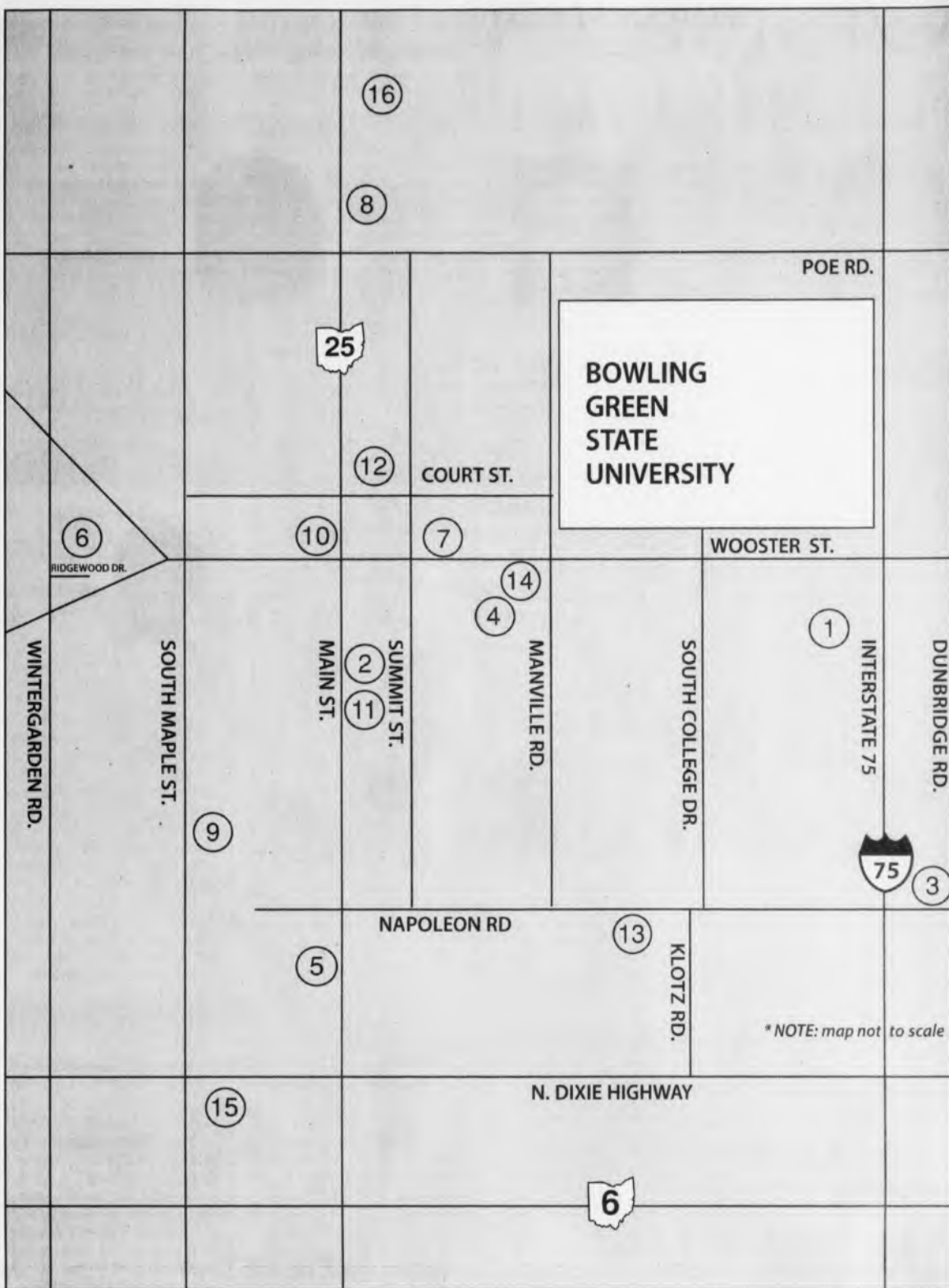
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PEOPLE ON THE STREET

Do you think the University should water the grass during the summer?



"Yeah, I think it looks better green rather than brown."

DANA BURRIS, Junior, Marketing



"Yes because of the fact that there are students coming to visit and for orientation."

RYAN BING, Junior, Visual Communication Technology



"No, because it's going to die anyway and it's wasting resources."

LAURA FAUSNAUGH, Senior, Special Education



"No. It just doesn't seem that important."

MARCUS CAREY, Senior, Philosophy

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Have your own take on today's People On The Street? Or a suggestion for a question? Give us your feedback at bgnews.com.

NEWS: GORE SETS ENERGY USAGE GOALS



MCT

Environmentalism conflicts with the University and aesthetic appeal



CHAD PUTERBAUGH
OPINION EDITOR

So, it's been another beautiful summer in Bowling Green. The familiar summer heat has all but kept me looking for air conditioning, the lack of summer economy has kept me from getting a full paycheck and all the green grass born from spring has died. Wait, it hasn't?

Amidst the sweltering heat wave we've had this summer, only one area of town has managed to keep its grass a luscious green: Bowling Green State University. Where the drought and blistering sun have driven people indoors, the University has spared no expense to make itself look beautiful to all of the visiting Orange Baggers.

But such is the nature for big corporations and multi-million dollar industries. The contrast in grass color that you see from one side of Wooster Street to the other, for instance, is a drop in the bucket compared to the expenditures of Las Vegas. That beautiful sin-induced oasis spends millions of dollars each year, transforming desert sand into one of the greenest cities in America. And they do it all without flinching, and with utter disregard for dwindling aquifers.

The University, however, will never be as bad as Las Vegas

simply because of the differences in scale. BGSU is but a fraction of the size, and has proportionally fewer students, especially during the summer. You would think, however, that small town budgets would lead to small town sensibilities. This simply isn't the case.

The University's water consumption is a little bit extravagant, in my opinion, especially when the three R's have come back into style. Yes, it seems that recycling may be the new pink as consumer demands and even the Christian populations seem to be pushing for renovation of recycling plants and eco-friendly cars. Amidst this trend however, BGSU tugs forward, keeping the grass as green as envy.

The sins of large corporations must come to an end. In nearly all of the rest of the globe, most people do not have water to drink. A friend of mine has been quoting statistics lately from Fiji, of all places. You know that fresh mountain water that you like to drink in the neat square bottles? Of course you do, but a native Fijian may go his or her entire life without having something so fresh touch their lips. It seems odd, but the corporate policies of that company make it such that an American, half a globe away, has easier access to fresh drinking water than the poor sap working in the water plant.

Please do not get me wrong, I know that the University is

an essential part of this town's economy. As one of the town's unemployed, I know about how poor of a microcosm is summertime in BG. Yet, when it is only BGSU that has green grass, I'm sure even the visiting freshman begins to notice that this is not the natural color for grass.

No. The University cannot be allowed to act with such disregard.

The price of water in the United States is kept artificially low by municipal water treatment plants. If our tap water cost as much as bottled water does, all but the filthy rich could afford to flush their toilet more than once per day. Day by day, water is becoming much less of a right, and more of a privilege.

Because competition and scarcity are taken out of the equation, there is no room for water prices to vary as if it were part of the economic system. If the normal principals of supply and demand were to take effect, water prices would surely rise due to the high demand of such a limited resource. Many estimates have predicted that the next world war will not be fought over nuclear arsenals or territory disputes, but rights to fresh water.

It will be a sad state indeed when the United States finds that it is not on the top of the global economy, and is forced to change its policies of opulence and reckless abandon to careful planning and resource sharing.

A festive tribute: taking note of America's best qualities



KAMPIRE BAHANA
COLUMNIST

In honor of last week's celebration, I would like to share my favorite things about the United States. Sometimes it's hard to be on Team America, what with the endless war, another failed immigration bill, the legalization of torture and the endless ways in which the nation rejects those "self-evident truths" and "unalienable rights" while using them to sell fireworks.

Lucky for those of us who live here, the hot dogs, the flags, the flashing lights and the people who get angry with you for not being patriotic, make it easier. Here are some more things that make it that much easier for me to love America.

10. Opportunity. When people ask me why I traveled thousands of miles to America to go to university, this is the reason that makes sense. It's also the one I put on my college applications.

In America, you can work hard, pull yourself up by your boot straps and make something of yourself. Unless you went to a poor school... or couldn't afford to go to college, in which case there is always McDonald's.

9. Chipotle. But that's Mexican, I hear you complain. Actually it's an American company, and if there is anything more American than appropriating Mexican food and making it available faster, easier and healthier than that

of lesser fast-food chains, then it sure doesn't taste as good as Chipotle's tacos. No, they aren't giving me free tacos (though if they wanted to, that would be cool, too.)

8. Youtube.com. What did we ever do on those lonely nights before we could watch episodes of Family Guy over and over again?

7. Family Guy. BWAHAHAHAHAHA!

6. New York City. You can walk a couple blocks down many a street in a New York neighborhood and hear several different languages. A lot of people would have you believe that's not American, and yet all we have to do is look at America's history, in which anti-immigration sentiment is a constant, where every generation of newly accepted Americans has had to get over their particular racial epithet.

So, although I am always disheartened by the close-minded attitudes of those who insist on one idea of Americans; "pure" Americans, Americans that never existed; I remember that those attitudes have little to do with what America really is: A country of immigrants.

5. Big explosions. I went to see Transformers last week and it was awesome. Big robots, big explosions, I felt like I was 7 years old again. The American military in the movie was cool too; their universal tactic for dealing with the enemy was to blow them up from the air. What? The giant robot scorpion isn't dead yet? Drop bigger bombs.

Later, I was watching fireworks, when I thought about how almost everyone else in the country was doing the

exact same thing and considering that we can't even agree on whether it's called pop or soda, that's pretty amazing. Also, fireworks remind us that Americans have bigger bombs than everyone else, and don't you want to be on the team with the biggest bombs? Go Team America!

4. Road trips. It is said that Americans don't travel internationally, but I probably wouldn't either if I could have a vacation with both ski and surf without having to bother about a passport. America is huge (HUGE), and beautiful and made for a good cross-country road trip. I don't think there is a better place in the world to throw a bag in the backseat and a mix CD in the stereo and head off into the sunset.

3. Concerts. Live music is my drug of choice. Bonnaroo, Ozfest, Coachella, Bumbershoot, jazz in New Orleans, electronic music in Detroit, reggae in Austin, even Bowling Green put on a pretty good show at the Portage Quarry.

2. Americans. My first week in the States I was grocery shopping and I couldn't find some item, and a man who didn't even work there walked around and helped me find it. A completely random guy outside Uptown gave me his socks once, it was cold and we had been waiting in line forever, it was a little gross, but kind of sweet. That's not to say that all Americans are nice, or all Americans are anything, but a whole lot of you have given me a chance, or a piece of furniture, or a smile and for that I am grateful.

1. Freedom of Expression.

STAFF EDITORIAL

Celebrity endorsement is necessary

This past weekend, thousands, perhaps millions of people gathered together to catch a concert event on a global scale. The Live Earth concert event this year was held in eight countries around the globe to broadcast a single message: environmental consciousness.

The event was another large-scale clash of fads from celebrity interest groups and their adoring fans. Speakers ranged from former presidential candidate Al Gore to actors such as Leonardo DiCaprio.

While a few of us muse that the event was anything but conservative — high electricity bills and jet fuel to fly in the big names — the message was clear and the venue ideal. The fact remains that the world is on the brink of an energy crisis. While consumers may unknowingly consume us into oblivion, the message must be spread that the alternative can only be wrought by changing habits and curbing consumption.

Today, the average consumer is flooded with images of how his or her life should be. Whether

they are bombarded by television commercials, billboards or magazine ads, the message from the corporate realm is potent, and attractive: spend! One voice in a crowd of voices cannot be heard; thus, celebrities have realized their power of capturing attention and used it for good.

Whether the speakers and musicians used the event for personal gain or reputation boosting seems to be a moot point as no one can disagree with the urgency of their message.

Local areas are just as effected as regional. In Midwest Ohio, for instance, farming is one of the primary sources of income. Thus, environmentalists must always be weary of contaminated groundwater from herbicides and fertilizer.

Irrigation is also a problem. When people use any irrigation system, from sprinklers to crop irrigation devices, water is exposed and is more likely to evaporate. And in a time of drought — like this summer — this can lead to a depletion of the water table.

The message from Live Earth was well received, and The BG News applaud the celebrities' broadcasting it.

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The BG News Submission Policy

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR are to be fewer than 300 words. These are usually in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area.

GUEST COLUMNS are longer pieces between 400 and 500 words. These are usually also in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area. The maximum number of submissions for columns is two per month.

POLICIES: Letters to the Editor and Guest Columns are printed as space on the Opinion Page permits. Additional Letters to the Editor or Guest Columns may be published online. Name, year and phone number should be included for verification purposes. Personal attacks, unverified information or anonymous submissions will not be printed.

E-MAIL SUBMISSIONS as an attachment to thenews@bgnews.com with the subject line marked "Letter to the Editor" or "Guest Column." Only e-mailed letters and columns will be considered for printing. All letters are subject to review for length and clarity before printing.

Opinion columns do not necessarily reflect the view of The BG News.

Troops in Pakistan storm mosque, killing radical cleric after week of negotiation

By Zarah Khan
The Associated Press

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — A radical cleric whose besieged mosque sought to impose strict Islamic morality on the Pakistani capital was killed yesterday after

refusing to respond to troops who demanded his surrender, officials said.

About 50 militants and eight soldiers died when the military stormed the sprawling Red Mosque compound.

Abdul Rashid Ghazi, the

public face of the pro-Taliban mosque that challenged the government's writ in Islamabad, had vowed to die rather than give himself up.

An army official said Ghazi had received bullet wounds and when he was told to surrender,

he gave no reply. Commandos then fired another volley of bullets and found Ghazi dead, said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity as he was not authorized to speak to media.

Javed Iqbal Cheema, spokesman for the Interior Ministry,

confirmed Ghazi's death and said the cleric's body was still lying in the compound, and that "battle-hardened" militants were defending themselves.

Officials, who earlier said the military held back on an all-out assault on Ghazi because there

were children being held in the basement as hostages, offered no details on who was with him when he died.

"The government is using full force. This is naked aggression,"

See **PAKISTAN** | Page 6

YARD CARE

From Page 1

And while some may find the water usage wasteful, Silverman suggests that another part of lawn care is much more detrimental to our environment — herbicides and pesticides.

At the University, the grounds crew uses the herbicide Trimec to keep away dandelions in our lawn, and a pre-emergent that is sprayed on in the fall to stop weeds before they surface.

The caution on Trimec says to keep the product out of reach of children, and that it should not be sprayed directly into water. Run-off from the herbicide can trickle into groundwater, causing slight contamination.

At www.pennmulch.com, the precautionary hazards located on Trimec's label can be seen.

These warnings include keeping Trimec out of reach of children, avoiding contact with eyes, digestive system and skin while applying the spray onto the lawn and to avoid directly applying Trimec into water or areas which are below the mean high water mark.

Sue Walmsley, supervisor for University Grounds, says that the chemicals being used on campus are the least dangerous on the market as possible because of the amount of people who live and work here.

The University only sprays once in the spring or once in the fall, and sticks to other methods for lawn care.

Aeration, where tiny soil plugs or cores are taken out of the ground to allow for thicker grass, and mowing the grass to 2 1/2 to 3 inches are the most effective at keeping the lawns looking uniform.

At home, many people call professionals to rid their lawns of insects and weeds.

Jordan Snyder, a lawn care specialist and University senior, said that some herbicides are safe, but for the most part 24 hours after spraying a lawn people and animals should stay off of it.

"If you're worried about insects around your home, then spray the pesticide close to the home, not on the whole lawn," Snyder said.

PARKS

From Page 1

coordinate with the WCPD's mission statement:

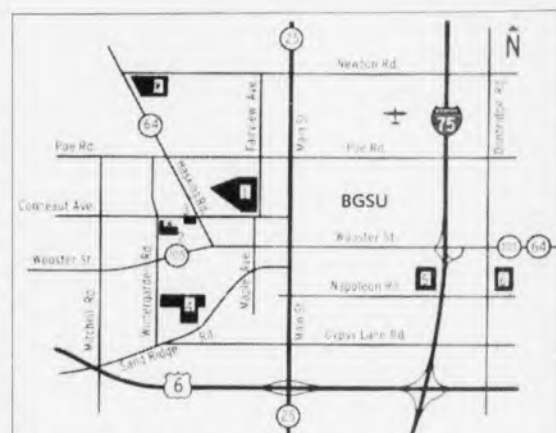
"The mission statement of the Wood County Park District is to preserve, enhance, protect and interpret the natural and cultural resources of Wood County, while providing quality passive recreational and educational opportunities for present and future Wood County Citizens."

Cavins divided ideas up between the categories of passive recreation, preservation, education and other. After ideas were listed by the community, they were then given the chance to vote on the ideas they liked best.

Some of the more popular ideas among Bowling Green residents in attendance included field trips for senior citizens and the upkeep of identification of plants for the passive recreation category.

Developing use of green technology where possible, creating more opportunities for recycling within the parks were popular ideas with the preservation category.

The education ideas included more hands on activities for children, the continued preservation of Native American cul-



WHERE THE PARKS ARE IN BOWLING GREEN

- 1) City Park
- 2) Simpson Building & Garden Park
- 3) Conneaut/Haskins Park
- 4) Wintergarden/St. Johns Nature Preserve
- 5) Carter Park
- 6) Dunbridge Road soccer fields
- 7) BG Training & Community Center

ture and lifestyle and displays of invasive species for learning and prevention of invasion. The other category consisted of a variety of topics including the wages of park staff as well as the lowering of canoeing prices.

"What you want to see in your park is the most important thing to us," Munger said.

The job now is for the WCPD staff to assess the needs of the people as well as their budget

in order to improve the county parks even more over the years.

In order to obtain funds for the ideas the WCPD holds many fundraisers. The organization also relies on donations, levies and volunteers in order to improve parks.

In addition, the WCPD has a local park improvement grant program to improve parks throughout the county, according to Munger.

PROPOSAL

From Page 2

ing switching her position and backing the measure. Also considered likely supporters were Sens. Chuck Hagel of Nebraska and Gordon Smith of Oregon.

Sen. Susan Collins, Ben Nelson, D-Neb., and other moderates said they were considering an alternative proposal that would demand an end to combat and allow U.S. troops to conduct only a narrow set of missions. The measure would not identify a date.

"What many of us are looking for is a new strategy that would not be a precipitous pull-out with all of the problems that would cause, but rather a plan to exit over the next year," said Collins, R-Maine.

Sen. John McCain, upon his return from Iraq, yesterday defended Bush's troop build up, contending that reinforcements had only just recently been put in place.

"I believe that our military in cooperation with our Iraqi security forces are making progress in a number of areas," he said, noting specifically a dramatic drop in attacks in Ramadi in the western Anbar province.

"Make no mistake. Violence in Baghdad remains at unacceptably high levels," McCain added. But the U.S. and Iraq seem to be "moving in the right direction," he said.

Reed of Rhode Island, who also visited Iraq last week, said he did not see enough progress to warrant the U.S. commitment there. Reed said that



DENNIS COOK | AP PHOTO

SPEECH: Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., left, accompanied by Sen. Jack Reed, D-R.I., discusses legislation to change the course of the War in Iraq yesterday during a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington.

Gen. David Petraeus, the top commander in Iraq, told him that the limits of U.S. military resources will factor into his recommendation on what to do next.

"Come next spring, the ability to generate 160,000 soldiers and Marines in country virtually comes to an end," said Reed.

The administration, including Defense Secretary Robert Gates, has stressed a September time frame for a wide-ranging assessment of operational strategy after about 4 1/2 years of battle, and has said such a review would be more appropriate then.

Gates planned to talk to various lawmakers on Tuesday, after abruptly canceling a trip to Latin America this week so he could help shape this week's report to Congress.

Defense Department spokes-

man Bryan Whitman said that military commanders believe that, "we would be able to be in a better place in September to be able to provide some assessments and make some decisions with respect to the way forward."

So far, he said, commanders are saying the build up — which brought troops levels to about 157,000 — has had a "positive" effect.

But concern about continued U.S. troop losses, indications of drift within the government of Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki in Baghdad and declining public support in this country for the war have driven some key Republicans closer to the position of Democrats demanding withdrawal.

One U.S. official said late Monday that the July report would push the administration to consider its next move. Another senior official, however, said that Bush and his advisers had already decided no change in policy was justified as yet because there was not enough evidence from Iraq.

Whether conditions merited a course shift, such as troop reductions or other scaling back of U.S. operations, would be decided after the September report, said one official, who spoke on condition of anonymity to talk more freely about internal deliberations.

This spring, Congress agreed to continue funding the war through September but demanded that Bush certify on July 15 and again on Sept. 15 that the Iraqis were living up to their political promises or forgo U.S. aid dollars.

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CAMPUS BRIEFS

University student struck by train

A University student was struck and killed by a train early Friday morning near E. Merry Street.

At 2:35 a.m. Bowling Green Police discovered the gates of the East Wooster Street crossing were down and a north-bound CSX train was stopped.

After contacting CSX, police learned the crew had just reported they may have hit a pedestrian.

Witnesses reported that Timothy Gregory, 21, of Findlay had been lying on the tracks and that the train was unable to stop in time.

As of press time, the incident is still being investigated by the Wood County Coroner's Office and it has not been determined whether Gregory was intentionally lying on the tracks.

Gregory was a junior at the University majoring in business administration and business pre-law, according to Teri Sharp, media relations director for the University. Gregory also worked at the Cooper Tire plant in Findlay.

Funeral services were held yesterday at St. Michael's church in Findlay and Gregory was buried in the church cemetery afterward.

Suicide bomber in Afghanistan kills 17 civilians

By Noor Khan
The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — A suicide bomber targeted a NATO patrol in a crowded marketplace in southern Afghanistan yesterday, killing 17 civilians, officials said.

At least 30 people were among the wounded, officials said.

The attack targeted troops patrolling on foot through a bazaar, said Gen. Qassim Khan, the provincial police chief who provided the casualty figures.

He said school children were among the wounded.

The Dutch Defense Ministry said in a press release that seven Dutch troops were injured, one critically.

Maj. John Thomas, a spokes-

man for NATO's International Security Assistance Force, said seven NATO troops were also wounded. Most soldiers in Uruzgan province are Dutch, though NATO couldn't immediately confirm their nationalities.

Thomas, who said the bomber showed "no concern for the potential deaths and injuries of civilians," said some Afghans were treated at ISAF medical facilities.

"It's pretty shocking that with the recent calls by some insurgent leaders to protect civilians in this conflict that they would undertake a massacre of civilians in a market place," Thomas said.

The attack came at the southern tip of Uruzgan province, near the border with Helmand and Kandahar.

Did you know?

Coca-Cola was originally green.



DAVID GUTTENFELDER / AP PHOTO

EMERGENCY: Ambulances cross through a military checkpoint as they leave the area of the Lal Masjid, or Red Mosque in Islamabad, Pakistan yesterday.

PAKISTAN

From Page 5

Ghazi said hours before his death. "My martyrdom is certain now."

Troops had stormed the sprawling mosque compound in the capital before dawn after efforts to bring a peaceful end to a weeklong standoff with security forces failed.

Ghazi and his brother Abdul Aziz, the mosque's chief cleric, had been using the mosque as a base to send out radicalized students to enforce their version of Islamic morality, including abducting alleged prostitutes and trying to "re-educate" them at the mosque.

Khalid Pervez, the city's top administrator, said as many as 50 women were the first to be freed by the militants and had emerged from the complex following the escape of 26 children.

Mohammed Khalid Jamil, a reporter for the local Aaj television network, was among journalists who said they saw dozens of women and girls walking on a road away from the mosque. They were wearing burqas, he said.

A military official who demanded anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the press, said the women included the wife and daughter of Abdul Aziz, who was arrested while trying to flee the complex last week.

It was not clear how many

noncombatants were being held hostage or were staying behind because they believed in the mosque's cause. Last week, a number of those who left the mosque, including young women, said their colleagues were there of their own free will and prepared to die.

Army spokesman Maj. Gen. Waheed Arshad said hostages were still being held and that fighting was intense. "We are fighting room by room," he added that stun grenades were being used to avoid casualties among the hostages.

He said about 50 militants have been killed in yesterday's assault, while eight soldiers had died and 29 were wounded.

Abdul Sattar Edhi, head of the private relief agency Edhi Foundation, told reporters that the army had asked him to prepare 400 white shrouds used for covering the dead.

The siege of one of the capital's most prominent mosques was prompted by clashes last Tuesday between security forces and supporters of the mosque's hardline clerics. More than 80 people have been killed in the fighting since July 3.

The vigilante anti-vice campaign has proved an embarrassment to President Gen. Pervez Musharraf, a key U.S. ally in its war on terror, and underlined his administration's failure to control

extremist religious schools.

But a major loss of life at the Red Mosque could further turn public opinion against the president, who already faces mounting opposition for his bungled attempts to fire the country's chief justice.

In Washington, a State Department spokesman, Tom Casey, said the militants were given many warnings before the commandos moved in.

"The government of Pakistan has proceeded in a responsible way," Casey said. "All governments have a responsibility to preserve order."

To protest the siege, more than 100 armed tribesmen and religious students near the northwestern town of Batagram temporarily blocked a road that leads to neighboring China, police officials said.

And in the eastern city of Multan, more than 500 Islamic religious school students rallied, chanting "Down with Musharraf" and blocking a main road by burning tires.

The U.S. Embassy recommended that Americans in Pakistan to limit their movement in the area of the northwestern city of Peshawar, warning that "terrorist elements" were threatening attacks on Pakistani government, police and army institutions in retaliation for the Red Mosque siege.

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PULSE UPDATE

CURRENT EVENTS



1964 ... The Tribute

This award-winning Beatles tribute band is coming to the Centennial Terrance in Sylvania this Saturday at 8 p.m. Come see the band Rolling Stone dubbed "the best Beatles Tribute Show on earth." If you can't wait, check out the Pulse Lifeline with John Lennon ... well technically Mark Benson, but close enough | **JULY 14**

Ottawa Park Concert Series

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WEB EXCLUSIVE



The review corner

Looking for more music, movie and video game reviews? Or photographs from the latest concerts? Check out more Web-only features | **BGNEWS.COM**



Harry Potter and the Really Long Ticket Line

If you dared to brave the crowds to see Harry Potter last night, you probably found yourself waiting in one lengthy line. Just think of it as good practice for when the book comes out.

The Pulse Section's Top YouTube Clip

The Pulse section likes YouTube videos and shoes, so watch: "Shoes" by "Liam Kyle" for a good laugh.

Rumble in the economical jungle

Money flows freely in digital, physical realms

By Melinda Jacobs
Pulse Editor

Lots of things affect the stock market and the value of monetary currencies. For example, politics, current events, the rise and fall of various companies, or how much gold a mob of elves are able to get from a murloc all effect ... Wait a minute, half-fish, half-man murlocs? Elves? Seriously?

You'd better believe it.

What started as a little ripple has slowly become a great disturbance within the already turbulent waters of the economic market. There's now another fish in the lake, and so far it appears that this lake isn't big enough for two.

Who is this new intruder that obeys only the rules of environments that don't even exist physically? Welcome the new age of the digital economy.

The digital economy, also known in the gaming world as Real Money Trading (RMT), involves the trading and selling of

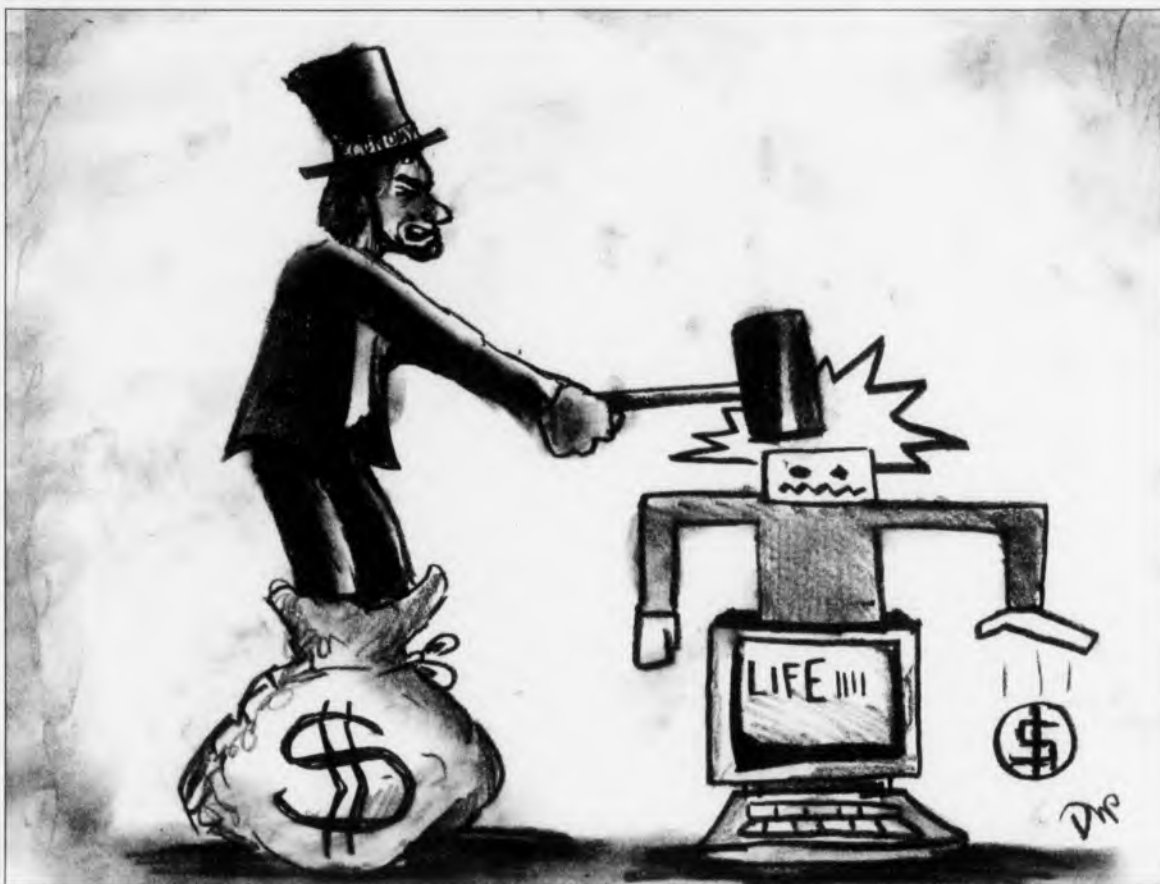


ILLUSTRATION BY DAN WHITE | THE BG NEWS

See **ECON** | Page 10

HE SAID | SHE SAID

What should you do with your ex's stuff after a break-up?



By Matt Manning
Pulse Columnist

By Emily Rippe
Pulse Columnist

You've probably seen it before; guy breaks up with girl and girl runs upstairs to throw guy's belongings or personal gifts onto the front lawn in complete and utter rage and the guy can do nothing but watch.

It may be funny or seem far-fetched. Well, in that case consider yourself lucky.

The uncomfortable end to any relationship brings to the surface many questions, but one question in particular always lingers around but never receives an answer — the question of what to do with your ex's stuff.

I know it sounds like an easy answer, but don't let that fool you. Some items from the ex's pile may bring back those painful memories of when you were together, some you want to keep and others you would like to burn in the nastiest trash can you could find. But the pile gets you thinking — she has my Bon Jovi CD, some jewelry I bought her and a couple of my favorite sweatshirts and dammit, I want those back.

Have you ever intentionally forgotten about somebody you dated, and then one day stumble upon their favorite stuffed animal or a T-shirt they let you "borrow"?

Then you are probably a collector, like me. Collectors have a hard time throwing away anything that may have sentimental value. Their bedrooms are cluttered with pictures, letters and a random assortment of stuff that enhances memories, good and bad.

But when it comes to past relationships, it is best to ditch the mementos with the person you dated.

Losing someone you once cared about is already hard enough, but constantly being reminded of that person when you are trying to get on with your life is even tougher.

Now, you might be thinking to yourself, "If I hold on to the pair of boxers he used to let me sleep in, and keep listening to that mixed tape he made for me the first month we started dating, then maybe he'll come back."

Yeah, maybe to reclaim said items.

See **SAID** | Page 8

PULSE LIFELINE

- **Name:** Mark Benson
- **Background Story:** He is John Lennon in the "1964...The Tribute" Beatles Tribute Band
- **Inspirations:** The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, Cream, Jimi Hendrix
- **Next Show:** Centennial Terrance — Sylvania, Ohio (tickets available at Ticketmaster)
- **For Future Performance Information:** www.1964thetribute.com
- **Featured on:** Entertainment Tonight, CNN, the USA Network, "PM Magazine," Nashville Network, "Best Major Concert Act" and "Best Contemporary Act" by the readers of "Campus Activities Today Magazine"

By Melinda Jacobs
Pulse Editor

Who couldn't resist an interview with John Lennon? Well ... Mark Benson may not be the "real thing" but as far as everything is concerned, he's pretty damn close. While on the road between performances with "1964...The Tribute," one of the best Beatles tribute bands in the world (don't just take my word for it — they were dubbed the "best tribute band on earth" by Rolling Stone magazine) Benson took time to talk with me about what it was like to be ... John Lennon.

How did you get involved in music?

Oh boy, since I was 5-6 years old. I was always interested in the musical sound. I played musical instruments throughout my life, such as the drums, but you couldn't carry drums to a party, so I switched to guitar.

And how long have you been performing as the Beatles Tribute band?

We've performed for about 24 years.

What has it been like performing in the band? Is there a lot of research and studying you guys do to learn your characters, or is it still more of a focus simply on learning the music?

It's a combination of everything, performing music and also acting. You have to find something in the character that you relate to. But there is a lot of research that goes into it as well. It's different than just covering a song.

What kind of research have you all done for your parts?

Well, having grown up in the 60s we saw it as we grew up. As Americans we were enchanted with English accents in our musical lives. But we've also done a lot of research on the side, reading a lot, watching old tapes and performances, stuff like that.

And how did you end up doing the part of John Lennon?

I own the station wagon so I got the part. [Laughs] If I don't get to be John then they're out of luck. But really, also it's really the part that I can do best! Take Gary Grimes, who



1964... THE TRIBUTE

plays Paul McCartney. He's played right-handed guitar all his life, so he actually learned how to play left-handed just for the show.

Wow, that's really impressive.

It was hard, but he does a great job with it, and he also plays the part really well, voice and all!

Okay, so now the traditional random question, if you could have one superpower, what would it be and why?

Hm, the superpower to cure the common cold I would be "Cold Man." [Laughs]

That would be amazing. I bet also with all the traveling it's easy to get tired and more susceptible to illness as well, being worn out.

Actually, one of the biggest ways to get sick while on tour is from shaking hands and traveling in airplane, through meeting all these different people.

ONLINE: Read more of this exclusive interview | **BGNEWS.COM**

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MOVIE
REVIEW

■ Grade | D

"TRANSFORMERS"

WHAT JOE THINKS: Alien robots come to our planet to either protect or enslave our species. On the good side are the Autobots led by the soothing voice of the noble Optimus Prime, and on the bad side are the Decepticons led by the tyrannical Megatron. These two groups battle against each other in search of the Allspark, a cube which is capable of destroying the human race by transforming all Earthly technology into conscious and deadly shape-shifting robots.

The director of the movie, Michael Bay, is infamous for being terrible at his job. Unfortunately, this extremely greed-inspired filmmaker has devolved even more in *Transformers* compared to some of his previous films and really seems to embrace his cheapness here. For some reason, this University of Southern California film school reject thinks it is a good idea to have all of his shots last under three seconds each before cutting away. There is also a tremendous overuse of shots that circle around the characters and close-ups framed just below the headline. I could go on and on about the shame that Bay brings to cinema, but chances are very good that no one will be going to *Transformers* to see a brilliantly made, artistic movie.

The action and special effects, which provide the only enjoyment from these types of movies, are sadly unsatisfactory. It provides an overflow of typical explosions and the look of the *Transformers* is just excellent. The bad thing about all this is that the battles between the Decepticons and the Autobots and the futile

minor human interference, are only about 8 percent of the movie. There are some great action sequences mixed in there, but with the frantic camera movement and fast cutting that is used, it just does not look as good as it needs to when everything else is so bad. Any fights between *Transformers* is relatively uneventful because all that happens is some massive property damage and a blur of metal and fire as they wrestle around and tumble into buildings. Even the epic battle that is expected at the end is poor and insignificantly small. It's over fast. There is just not enough of the good stuff to keep this movie afloat.

The characterization is horrible. The women in the movie seem less human than the alien-machine Autobots. Tyrese Gibson plays the stereotypical black guy movie role. The most developed character is actually one of the *Transformers*, named Bumblebee, and even that is sad.

There are times when a loud rock song kicks in at an unexpected time, and then since Bay likes to keep all his shots eye-blink fast, it shuts off after only a few seconds leaving me wondering what the purpose was. The fast cutting ruins any buildup, and it certainly isn't helped out any with a 15-second music clip. The dialogue throughout is teenage at best. Sadly enough, some of the stupid jokes got a few big laughs from the theater, and even I laughed out loud a few times. Most of my laughs though, came from me either laughing at the stupidity of such cheap jokes or from laughing at the people who actually enjoyed these cheap jokes. This was toward the beginning toward the end when the theater was still laughing at this idiocy. I was a little depressed by it.

And then there is the product placement. This comes in the form of Michael Bay referencing his own movies, a tribute to executive producer Steven Spielberg by mentioning E.T., and of course all the good *Transformers* take the shape of GMC, Pontiac or Chevy. In short, going into the theater I was not hoping for much, but I figured there would be some decent action and a somewhat entertaining movie experience. I expected bad directing, bad dialogue, a bad story and a very unartistic movie. The movie, which clearly is targeted to male teenagers, is a lot like driving to see your favorite band at a concert far away only to have them play for 30 seconds, then say goodnight.

— Joe Morehart

How Sarah at the gas station helped me accept my name

LAUREN BUTTS
HUMOR COLUMNIST

I hate going to the gas stations that have attendants who yell at you over a loud speaker. Not only is it embarrassing when your card doesn't swipe or you are having some trouble at the pump, but now you have some annoying voice yelling at you to just come inside and pay. If that was my job I would just yell random things at people pumping their gas like, "Pay no attention to the man behind the curtain."

Pre-paid pumps are my favorite because it cuts out the walk of shame when you pumped just one penny over the dollar. It's almost as if the tenant is laughing at you and judging your operating skills.

"Amateurs" they sneer. I particularly love pre-pay because the tenant avoids seeing my unpleasant look of horror when I realize that I only have \$2 and a Canadian penny for gas that week.

Anyway, the reason I am rambling on about gas pumping is because I had an epiphany while filling up the other day. Gas was \$2.77 per gallon and for some reason I was celebrating the two-cent drop. I was feeling saucy and decided to avoid the annoying Wizard of Oz voice

and selected the "pay inside" option. I thought to myself, "What the hell, I will splurge and put nine bucks in today." Proud as a peacock, I strolled into the gas station where I was greeted by Sarah the cashier. Sarah, the cashier, has a noticeably hard time pronouncing words with the letter "s". "Theven Theventy Thix ith your change," she said to the lady in front of me who just smiled politely. By the time it was my turn Sarah was looking kind of tense. My change was only a dollar and I felt grateful that I didn't have to witness her struggle with another six or seven cents. I was relieved mostly because I probably would have laughed and made the situation a whole lot worse.

As I pulled away from the gas station, I thought about Sarah and how unlucky she was to be named Sarah. I can just see Sarah's parents thumbing through the book of baby names while God watched over them, laughing hysterically. Almost as if he put the name "Sarah" in flashing neon lights with a sign above it that said "Pick Me! Pick Me!"

I'll admit that it is a little harsh to be making a joke out of poor Sarah's speech impediment but think about the sick bastard who named her particular speech problem a "lisp."

ONLINE: How did she come to terms? | BGNEWS.COM

THE BG NEWS SUDOKU								
		7		2			8	
4								
		6	5					
			3			7	4	
				8			2	
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6	1	9	1	8	7	5
1	5	7	6	2	8	9
9	1	5	2	7	6	8
8	7	6	9	8	1	5
8	7	6	5	2	1	9
7	6	1	8	2	9	5
2	9	7	1	6	8	5
5	8	9	7	2	9	1



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The Sudoku Solution: The BG News

HE SAID

From Page 7

If this is the case, if you're bound and determined to get your CDs and sweatshirts back, please do so with caution. She may be more furious than you are at the break-up. Just the sight of you coming on to her property or the sound of your voice may trigger some emotions that you only witnessed when she found out who you were "poking" on Facebook. My suggestion, wait at least a month before contact.

When that day comes around, stay strong and stay focused. Ask politely about your items and promote the fact that you will return hers as well in the process. This exchange should be easy and pain free. But this is an unlikely scenario.

The likely scenario for this type of problem is you can forget about your Bon Jovi CD and the sweatshirts — they are now casualties that are best forgotten about. Besides, Bon Jovi CDs come and go anyway, but the sweatshirts may be a sad loss.

The jewelry question is very hard to find an answer. I sup-

pose the more expensive the jewelry, or the more meaningful was the thought behind it, determines whether or not you shall have it back. A good rule of thumb would be if it was given to signify some pivotal moment in your relationship, the jewelry should be given back. But on the other hand, if it was simply a gift or just a simple and expensive gesture consider it a loss.

But hopefully the relationship didn't end in a bad note and both parties can come up with some type of compromise. Whether you take my advice or don't, I wish you luck — you're going to need it.

SHE SAID

From Page 7

And try as you might to convince yourself that you are over the relationship, you are not fooling anyone into thinking that you have moved on when his picture is still taped to your wall.

I know it's hard to let go, so you might have to take baby steps.

First, clear your room of the sappy memories. There should be no framed pictures of the two of you anywhere in sight, even if you claim to still be best friends. It is important to understand that if

you both wish to keep a platonic relationship, then you need to give each other some space first.

You do not have to get rid of less sentimental gifts you received for your birthday or Christmas. If he bought you a CD or your favorite pair of shoes, there is no need to give them back or throw them away, unless you start doting over those, in which case you had better seek professional attention.

Another step that goes along with disposing the things that remind you of your ex is also refraining from the people and places who also remind you of him.

This does not mean stop hang-

ing out at your favorite bar with your mutual best friends who have listened to both sides of the break up story. But more simply, don't hang out with people who you know will probably invite him out too, wishfully hoping that maybe the two of you can talk things out when he sees your sexy new haircut.

If you honestly can't bring yourself to get rid of the memories, at least place them in a drawer or closet that you barely open.

Easier said than done, right. Well, nobody said relationships were easy, even after they're gone.

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SPORTS

Wednesday, July 11, 2007 9

Carter Park helps satisfy BG's summer sports fix

By Chayse Held
Sports Editor

In a town where Falcon football, basketball and hockey are king, many would assume the summer is a time when the Bowling Green sports scene goes into a lull.

However, when June, July and August roll around there is a location within the city's limits in which some of the highest level of competitive youth baseball and softball is played on an almost nightly basis: at Carter Park, BG's own eight-diamond baseball/softball facility that also features a disc golf course, shelter houses and other outdoor features.

"The history of the park, it's always been that way. People know they're going to get a good tournament when they go out there. They know they're going to play other quality teams. That's the main thing," said Rob Wells, Bowling Green Parks and Recreation Department's Sports Specialist.

With the reputation of hosting the most competitive youth baseball and softball tournaments in the area, young players look forward to coming to Carter Park.

"[Carter Park] is a great park. The atmosphere when you get here is really awesome. It's a lot like BGSU's campus, where everything's wide open," said Hayley Wiemer, who coaches a 16-and-under girls' fast pitch softball team that competed in the American Softball Association's state tournament this weekend at Carter Park.

Wiemer, who just finished her sophomore season on the BG softball team, played tournaments at Carter Park as a youth and now into her collegiate career, in the



JORDAN FLOWER | THE BG NEWS

BEAT THE HEAT: A member of team Ice Black attempts to beat out a bunt at first base during the finals of the loser's bracket in the American Softball Association's state tournament Sunday. Carter Park hosts numerous softball and baseball tournaments that bring in competitive youth sports and revenue in what would otherwise be a quiet summer sports season in Bowling Green.

BG softball team's fall ball schedule. This past season Wiemer garnered first-team all-MAC honors for the second consecutive season, led the Falcons in wins as a pitcher and topped the team in batting average, home runs and runs batted in.

But Wiemer is just one example of the quality of youth players, both softball and baseball, that Carter Park has provided with a place for highly competitive tournaments in the summer.

Among some of the youths that have played at Carter Park include current Los Angeles Dodgers' pitcher Chad Billingsley, New York Mets 2005 first round draft pick Jon Niese and numerous others who have went on to play at a collegiate level or beyond.

With the best players on display, Carter Park's tournaments have become a hotbed for college scouts to check out the up-

and-coming softball and baseball prospects of the local area and beyond.

"This is as good as good as it gets," said Michele Milligan, director of the ASA tournament. "All these teams have earned an opportunity to be here. There's a lot of college scouts out here. Their presence alone, that tells you something. They're not going to come to a tournament with just one good team, they want to see everybody."

Nevertheless, the benefits of Carter Park are not relegated to the ball diamond alone. The teams that travel to Bowling Green to play at Carter Park provide the city with revenue that would have otherwise been missing.

"Between the softball complex and the baseball complex there's upwards of 300 teams that come from outside of the area. The money that's brought into the

hotels and the restaurants in the area is phenomenal," Wells said.

But the attraction of Carter Park has as much to do with the city in which it is located as the park itself.

"There's a lot of local restaurants here that aren't chain restaurants. I know coaching and playing, the first thing you want to know is where are the restaurants? Where are we going to eat? What are we going to do in between games," Wiemer said. "Bowling Green is a cool town. [Carter Park] is a really cool park."

So, can Carter Park fill the void of the Bowling Green sports fan?

Although youth sports will never be the same as NCAA Division I athletics to some fans, the love for the game that these athletes show on a regular basis can be found only if fans take the time to look.

SPORTS BRIEFS



Tod Brown
Eight-year BG assistant baseball coach accepts head job at NDSU.

Brown leaves for North Dakota State

Tod Brown, BG baseball's pitching coach and recruiting coordinator for the past eight seasons, has accepted the head coaching position at North Dakota State University, located in Fargo. The announcement was made on July 3 by Gene Taylor, NDSU athletic director.

NDSU was 16-31 as a Division I independent last season and will join The Summit League for the 2008 season.

"We're extremely excited Tod has accepted this opportunity," said Taylor on www.bgsufalcons.com. "We had outstanding candidates to choose from and Tod rose to the top... We look forward to Tod taking our baseball team and preparing them to be potential Summit League champions."

Brown, who replaces Mitch McLeod at NDSU, helped lead the Falcon baseball team to two division titles and one regular season MAC championship.

Volleyball schedule announced

The BG volleyball team has released the schedule for its upcoming 2007 season, featuring 13 matches inside Anderson Arena.

Highlights of the schedule include four tournaments to begin the season including ones hosted by California State Fullerton and New Mexico University. The Falcons' home opener is slated for Aug. 28

against Oakland.

BG will host the 2007 Falcon Invitational (Sept. 14-15) inside Anderson Arena, featuring DePaul, Duquesne and Valparaiso, before beginning MAC play at Miami Sept. 20.

The Falcons will host MAC opponents Northern Illinois (Sept. 22), Akron (Oct. 5), Buffalo (Oct. 6), Central Michigan (Oct. 12), Eastern Michigan (Oct. 13), Miami (Oct. 24), Kent State (Nov. 3) and Ohio (Nov. 4).

In 2006, BG had an overall record of 26-6 and 13-3 in the MAC before finishing runner-up to Ohio in the MAC tournament.

Women golfers named to All-American Scholar Team

The National Golf Coaches Association has named Carley Hrusovsky and Lindsey Jonkhoff to the NGCA All-American Scholar Team for 2007.

Both Hrusovsky and Jonkhoff are juniors on the women's golf team and qualified for the award by carrying a cumulative GPA of 3.50 or higher and competing in at least 50 percent of the Falcons' rounds last season.

Hrusovsky, a North Canton, Ohio native, compiled a 3.90 GPA while majoring in sports management. Hrusovsky averaged a team-best 81.90 stroke average last season, breaking the 80-stroke mark five times during the season.

Jonkhoff, a Traverse City, Mich. native and psychology major, also had a 3.90 GPA last school year. Jonkhoff carried an 83.23 stroke average in 2006.

As a team, BG ranked as the 11th best women's golf team in the country in terms of GPA (3.637). The University of South Alabama had the highest team GPA in the country at 3.799.

TODAY IN SPORTS HISTORY

1914 - Babe Ruth debuts as a pitcher for Boston Red Sox, he beats Cleveland 4-3.

1962 - Fred Balasare is first to swim English Channel underwater with scuba gear.

1982 - Italy beats West Germany 3-1 for soccer's 12th World Cup in Madrid.



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ECON

From Page 7

virtual items, items that exist only in virtual worlds such as World of Warcraft, for real life currencies or other physical items of value.

That's right, selling virtual items for physical dollars. This is a practice that organizations such as Swagvault Internet Gaming Services Co. Ltd focus their entire companies around. Swagvault collects and sells items collected within virtual markets, such as items, in-game currencies or even gaming characters of high rank, in the physical markets.

Mr. Power Kong, CEO of Swagvault, explained that his company simply offers services to players who wish to enjoy the game further, but do not have the time to invest in the games.

"Our mission ... is to allow them [the items] to be enjoyed freely in the virtual world instead of simply being 'virtual assets' within themselves," Kong said.

And like most similar companies, Kong and his company procure their products through the currently controversial method of "gold farming." Gold farming is where a company pays players to play the game and acquire objects or characters of which the company then later sells.

"The services we offer our customers are fulfilled by professional online game players, most of who live in China, and some who live in other developing countries," Kong said. "They log in the North American and European game servers, and farm the in-game items or level up a character manually, just like other common players."

And just like in the physical economy, there are economists, such as Sam Smith, owner of www.gamerprice.com, an impartial price comparison site for gold prices in online games.

While running his comparison site, Smith noticed that there was a gap between prices per unit of gold on the European servers as opposed to the American servers. Curious, Smith decided to investigate the substantial gap through comparing gold prices on the two servers.

According to their findings, the price difference within the American servers could be as much as 14 times the cost of gold was in the European ones.

"This just goes to show how much the game owners can influence things," Smith said. "Blizzard [World of Warcraft Developers], at the time, was obviously doing a much better job in cracking down on farming and exploits on the U.S. realms, while not trying as hard on Europe."

However, beyond even the controversies of selling digital goods within a physical market, there's still another huge debate going on

"Games can have hyperinflation, just like real economies, and it's interesting how the exact same economies can have such variation from realm to realm."

Sam Smith | Owner of Gamerprice.com

between game owners and these virtual sellers. Who owns the digital products within a game? The game owners or the players who acquired them?

In games such as Second Life, the company actually gives away the rights to people at the beginning when they sign up in the user agreement, however, in other games such as World of Warcraft this is not the case, which causes difficulty for peaceful relationships to form between the gold farmers and the game operators — and has resulted in banning the sale of virtual objects via sites such as eBay.

"It's the operators who have the copyright for the online game programs while the players possess the property rights of various 'game scores' they got during the gaming process. They do not contradict to each other," Kong said.

Personally, Smith agrees that gamers should have the option to do whatever with the objects they collect within the online worlds.

"People have different work and game balances," Smith said. "I have bought gold, and I am not ashamed of spending a little money to get more enjoyment from my hobby."

With all of these various twists and turns within the virtual world, it is not surprising that it has created its own environment that has begun to bleed over into the physical world.

"This same factor is what makes virtual worlds so interesting for economists," Smith said. "Games can have hyperinflation, just like real economies, and it's interesting how the exact same economies can have such variation from realm to realm."

But how does one compensate for a digital item? Does it really have the same standing as its physical counterpart?

Teresa Regio, a lawyer in Portugal, is one of the many people who are attempting to answer that question while dealing with cases that come up from time to time, involving virtual, and not physical, goods that have forced the legal industry to adapt.

"In one case we saw come through, a boy bought some ammunition in a game to use at some specific level," she explained. "But after he bought it the Webmaster, or game owner, changed the level, and he couldn't use the ammunition anymore. According to our law, he should get his money back."

However, despite the translation of the law allowing persons to seek compensation for digital

goods when applied to physical good principles, as to whether or not a person can consider virtual items as physical items, is a difficult question to answer.

"You can own something that doesn't have a physical existence," Regio said. "We don't have specific law that predicts this type of situations, and we have to adapt it. The theory here is the same whether the item has a physical existence or virtual."

As the virtual economy inches closer and closer to merging even deeper with the physical economy, it is apparent to all sides that more specific laws will need to be decided upon, in order to control this new breed of economy.

"Without protection of state law, rectifying the market is an impossible mission," Kong said. "As a result, all transactions will be conducted in a disordered environment."

Whether the world is ready to embrace it or not, the virtual and physical economies are on a collision course to an end of which no one can currently predict the result of. Will this destroy the physical markets like some fear? Will this open so many legalities the digital world becomes a legal nightmare and not the playground for creative minds it currently is?

Or perhaps the most important question to consider: when all is said and done who will remain? How many elves and murlocs will it take to fight the digital economy's way into acceptance of the real world?

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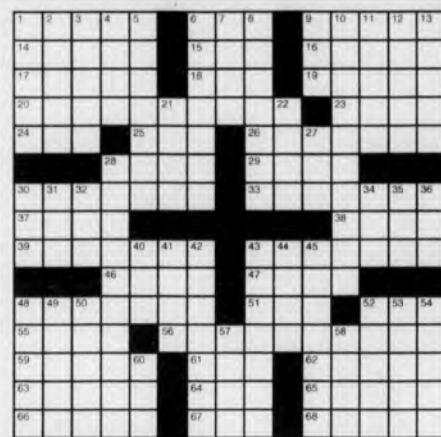
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- 39 Michigan city
- 43 Evidenced a tendency

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- 55 mater
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